



# *APD NEWS*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 10, 2008**

**Contact:** Public Information Office, 974-5017

### **Traffic fatality trends for Sept. 10, 2008 to Oct. 24, 2008**

There have been 10 crashes resulting in 10 traffic fatalities from September 10, 2008 to October 24, 2008. Three of the 10 fatalities were motor vehicle occupants. Four of the 10 fatalities were pedestrians and two were motorcyclists. Speed was a factor in 20 percent of the 10 fatalities and 0 percent of the traffic fatality victims were not wearing seatbelts. One of the 10 motorcyclists was not wearing a helmet. 10 percent or one of the 10 fatal crashes involved impairment.

Each traffic fatality is reviewed to determine contributing factors along with other elements that resulted in the collision. Traffic fatalities are placed in the following categories: driving culture, impairment and bizarre/medical.

The Austin Police Department is greatly concerned that lives are being lost on the streets and highways of Austin. The department is dedicated to making the roadways of Austin safe for residents and visitors through education, enforcement and engineering.

There were 60 traffic fatalities in Austin during 2007. In 2006, there were 64 traffic fatalities.

**Media Advisory:** Austin Police Department Sergeant Kris Thompson will be available for interviews at 4201 Ed Bluestein at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, November 10, 2008. Please call APD-PIO if you plan to attend.

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